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PRELIMINARY NOTICE OF SOME MINERALS FROM THE SERPENTINE BELT, NEAR EASTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

BY JOHN EYERMAN.

The serpentine belt and contact rocks have already supplied no less than twenty-one mineral species and varieties, many of which occur very sparingly and are represented, perhaps, by a half dozen specimens of each. This belt appears in Warren County, N. J., and crossing the Delaware River about one-quarter of a mile north of Easton, extends south-westerly, a distance of three miles, thinning out at both ends. The southern contact of the belt is a grayish-blue limestone of uncertain age, no determination having been attempted on account of the absence of fossils; it seems probable, however, that it belongs either to the *Chazy* or *Calciferous*. The north contact of the belt is formed by a ridge of syenite and gneiss, this ridge forming the Weygatt Mt., which nowhere along the entire extent of three miles attains a greater base width than 2500 to 3000 feet. North of this ridge is seen the same limestone, which forms the southern contact of the serpentine belt.

The following minerals were all found in very limited quantities, so that an extended account must be reserved for some future time, only qualitative determinations being made on account of this lack of sufficient material.

HYDROMAGNESITE: This occurs as a beautiful snow-white incrustation on the talc-serpentine rocks near the supposed south contact.

GRAPHITE: In small flakes, it is found disseminated through the talc-serpentine rocks at several localities along the belt. It is also found on quartz at Marble Hill, N. J., one mile north of Phillipsburg.

TOPAZ: A few small prisms of this mineral have been found near the north contact along the Delaware River. Color, dirty cream-yellow, almost transparent.

CHALCOPYRITE: A small sphenoid of this mineral was observed associated with malachite, imbedded in the calciferous talc.

PYRITE: Cubic forms of this sulphide of iron are quite abundantly disseminated throughout the talc-serpentine at many places along the belt.

PSEUDOMORPHS: Some interesting forms of limonite and turgite pseudomorphous after cubic pyrite have been found associated with the pyrite. A peculiar bronze colored mineral, also apparently after pyrite, was observed, but unfortunately not in sufficient quantity for determination.

CALCITE: Some beautiful specimens of the variety Iceland spar were obtained at Sherrer's old quarry, on the Delaware River road. This locality has also furnished some silky-white specimens of aragonite.

MUSCOVITE: This mica has been found in considerable quantities at two localities (both in the *Archaean*) one near Low's Hollow, N. J., six miles north-east of Easton and on the Lehigh Mt., one mile from Bethlehem, Pa.

ORTHOCLASE: This feldspar has been found at three localities in the Archaean, (*a*) near Low's Hollow, N. J., (*b*) on the Weygatt Mt. north of Easton, (*c*) near Redington, six miles from Easton, associated with allanite and tourmaline.